

Black Men: Vote For The Franchise and A Better Kansas City

RELIGIOUS REFORM

QUALITY FIRST IN RELIGION!

Clean Living the Best Evidence of Faith.

(By Charles A. Starks.)

It has been the undeviating policy of this department of the Sun to speak out boldly on the most "touchy" questions of the day. Perhaps some unpleasant things have been said out of pure necessity, but even these have been stated as pleasantly as conditions would permit. We claim no new discovery in religious thought, nor do we speak of certain inconsistencies or practices that have not been spoken of before both by press and pulpit, but rather assume the telling phraseology of Mark Anthony and say: "We only tell you that which you yourselves do know," and give you incontrovertible facts.

Pure and undefiled we like the Negro character, believing his generally good natured makeup unsurpassed by none. He is not given to prejudices that cannot be overcome by education, and even in his religious antics,



CHAS. A. STARKS.

he may be said to lean towards virtue's side. The only trouble here is that he makes a luxury of his religion, so to speak, and overlooks the daily bread that is so essential to the very thoughtful. Our custom of having chicken (that most savory fowl) on Sunday morning is humorously but exactly illustrative of many in their worship; they only take their morning meal (spiritual) with Christ on Sunday, and are thus satisfied "all the next seventh day." When we accustom ourselves to carrying our religious thought into every avenue of life—when we demand higher standards of living in our society—when we insist that the righteous shall rule—when we learn as followers of Christ that we are to demonstrate over sin everywhere, then it will not be necessary to dwell on such facts as we give below.

Unseemly Things.

Waste, neglect and uncleanness are sinful and have the same demoralizing effect as so-called greater sins. It is the old story over again sins of "commission and omission." Misappropriation of funds has been the poison of church management, a prodigal use of the people's energy is a prevalent sin, the neglect of church property is a common crime and uncleanness is the social scourge of its people. That we are wasteful of both money and energy cannot be denied we lavish our money in wrong and sinful directions at waste our energy in vain repetitions even in our very services to God. Anything pertaining to religion is best enacted in a clear, calm and pleasant manner, doing your utmost without sounding brass and fasting with a clean smiling face and always having understanding for your guide.

The neglect of property, we say, is a common crime and it is one of the saddest phases of church life. After a long struggle of the people to erect a worthy building and equip it with common comforts and facilities which are necessary, it is sad, we repeat, to see any building in advanced stages of deterioration, window sills rotting, bricks falling out, general aspect unimproved—unpainted and uncared for. Does not this outer appearance reflect too truly the inner life of its people? To properly care for and appreciate what God has already given is more truly Christian than offering up long prayers for more blessings which we do not deserve. His unwillingness to improve upon the one talent was the offense that brought down the censure of the Master upon the servant of old. We are no better in our day when we neglect that which God has already given whether it be spiritual or material for God is the giver of all good. Perhaps the Negro has more church property in cities than any other kind, then from several standpoints church buildings should be models of neatness and trimness in both exterior and interior order. God will not give to a people the deeper spiritual truths who cannot appreciate their material advantages. And he even asks substantially: If you cannot understand the material, how do you expect to discern the spiritual? In keeping property, big churches should employ real janitors to take care of the building and its premises and they should be paid a living wage, not less than \$50 a month and it should be paid promptly, too. And an efficient service should be demanded. Then repairs would take place at once,

windows kept clean, broken gas globe replaced, church opened at the proper time—properly heated, and above all properly ventilated. A first class janitor can paint, do carpenter work or anything about a building for the other race, why not for us? Uncleanliness was the one thing that ever came up before the pure minded Master in his association with men. Whether flesh or soul this apparent evil incensed itself only to evoke a divine demonstration of truth's power to cleanse and heal of all uncleanness. Sometimes it was a man with a devil (evil) or a woman with an unclean spirit (immoral tendency), sometimes it was hypocrisy classed as the Scribes and Pharisees all of which Christ rebuked calling out the evil and healing the unclean. Today we are burdened with the same problems and if we are to solve them properly we must again "seek that mind which was also in Christ Jesus." We must cast out evil and the unclean spirit and rebuke the hypocrite for his or her great pretension and little practice. The hypocrite can be excluded (largely)—from our churches by the good people who will insist on certain qualifications for every one making application for membership. The unclean can be cured by a demonstration of the Christ spirit by all. If the church has not this power then it should strive earnestly to gain it, that it is needful is too apparent. And here the writer cannot understand just why well known buffet flat keepers and their patrons—revelers—disreputable characters and other misfits should be retained or admitted to the "congregation of the Lord," without at least some sign of reform or fitness. He does understand though that such a loose qualification as this is not exclusive of any one, namely, "Believe him with your heart and confess him with your mouth," which anyone can do and stand still. How often has the heart proven fickle? Or the lips testified to a lie? We like that scientific truth which observes: "By their fruits ye shall know them," and so it has been down the countless ages. If you love me keep my commandments," is rigid but not unattainable. And there is elevation in trying. The fact that we are able to keep one or several of the commandments signifies the possibility of keeping them all. This much no one has lost anything trying to realize their highest intent.

By all means we should reach out after higher spiritual things. If we can sacrifice and struggle for a fine church edifice and a sixteen hundred dollar organ surely we can make some unusual efforts in reaching out for more spirit. We don't truly sacrifice 'til we lay our selfish and material thoughts upon the altar of truth. When we do this I see a brighter day appearing with Truth's morning star revealing itself in the heavens and illumining the world's horizon with nobler rays of light as it issues from its vast darkness.

LAWYER C. H. CALLOWAY FOR FRANCHISE.

To the Kansas City Sun:

The Metropolitan Street Railway Company are asking the people of Kansas City, Mo., to ratify a contract on July 7, which will enable them to give adequate service, make extensions and put on its tracks better and more commodious cars. Some of us object to riding in cars that are packed like sardines in boxes. What is the reason for this? They have not the money to buy more cars. Where is the money to come from? It must come from the East and the financiers are not going to put their money in a proposition that is already in the hands of receivers, but in this contract their rights, as well as those of the city, will be protected. Several years ago I was against the franchise, but at that time it was not in the hands of receivers, but today it is, and if this franchise will help get it out, let us pull together. We have a lot of civic pride, and it is embarrassing to Kansas Cityans when they are told by people of other cities that they are not capable of running their street car system. In voting for the franchise, we are protecting the stockholders. Many of them live in Kansas City, and have done much to make Kansas City a good place to live in. Are you going to be an enemy to the welfare of Kansas City and keep out capital, or would you rather assist her in rising to those heights of prosperity and contentment that other cities have reached?

What does the passing of this contract mean? To my mind it means more work for the laboring man, better cars, better times and more cars. It will be an encouragement and invitation to capital. I think 5 cents fare with universal transfer in Missouri and Kansas is all that we could ask at this time, and children from 8 to 12 years 2½ cents, and children under 8 years accompanied by persons paying fares, free. Would you rather pay a 5-cent fare and have universal transfers or pay 3 cents without? Take Chicago, e. g. It is impossible to go from the north side without paying an extra fare.

Let the Negroes look well before they let the opportunity slip to help their city and incidentally help themselves. How can you think of voting any other way than for the franchise when you pass along the highway and see scores of Negroes working for the street car company? We are benefited either directly or indirectly

NELSON C. CREWS' PREDICTION.

To the Colored Voters of Kansas City:—

After having studied carefully the Provisions of the New Franchise submitted by the Mayor, the Common Council and the Metropolitan Street Railway Company and fully believing that its Provisions satisfy the demands and meet the approval of every unbiased, fair-minded and unprejudiced Citizen of this City, I predict that the same overwhelming, crushing and triumphant pluralty of 10,000 given to Henry L. Jost in the last Municipal Campaign by men of all political affiliations, as a testimonial of their appreciation of his integrity and devotion to the interests of Kansas City and as a rebuke to the bulldozing, unfair and unscrupulous methods of the Star and Times will be the same enthusiastic, militant and triumphant majority that will be given FOR THE FRANCHISE—BECAUSE, it represents the sentiment OF THE PEOPLE which cannot be swayed nor hindered by an unscrupulous and self-serving publication.

I PREDICT 10,000 MAJORITY FOR THE FRANCHISE.

Respectfully,

NELSON C. CREWS,

Editor and Owner of the Kansas City Sun.

MASONIC.

Should the master of a lodge wear his hat while conducting a funeral ceremony? I think not, nor do I believe there is any authority to support such practice. The master wears his hat while presiding over his lodge at work but not during any of the ceremonies which are carried out in public.

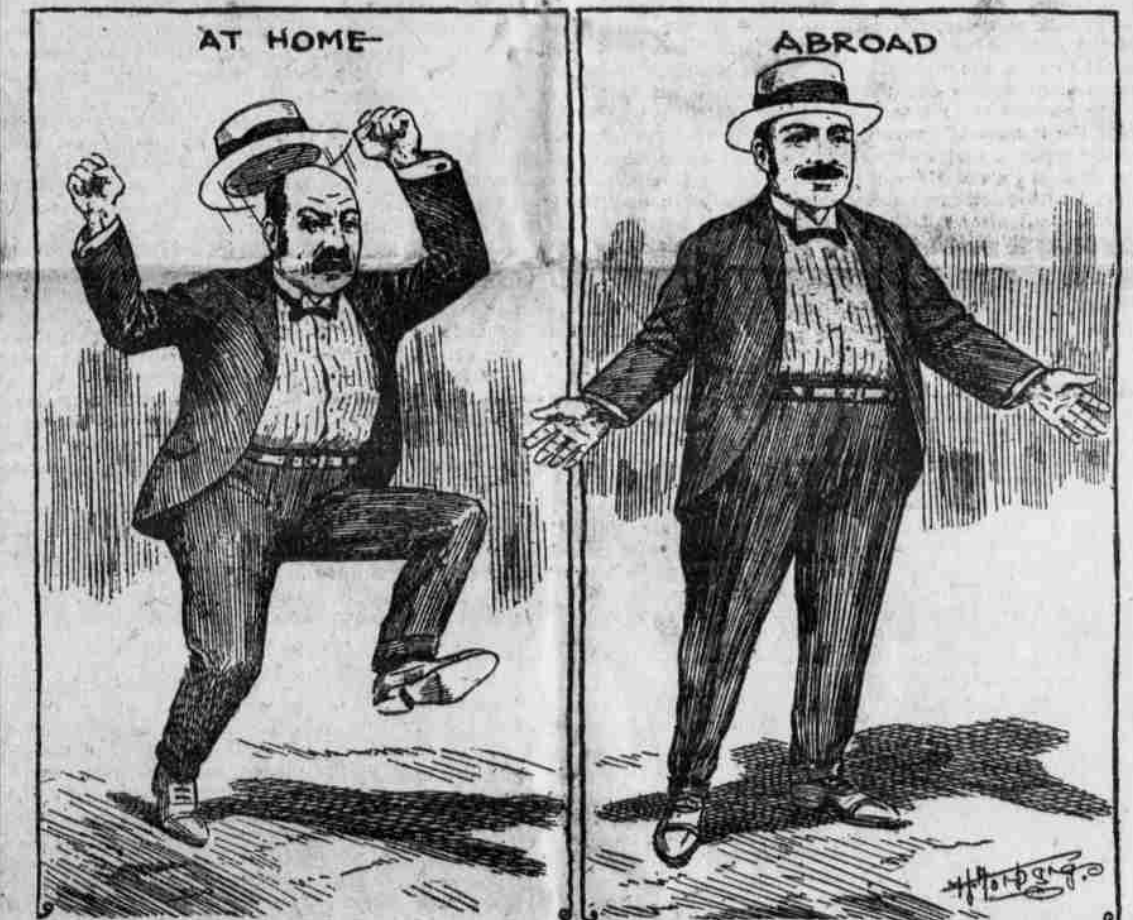
Upon entering the church he should remove his hat along with other brethren, his gavel being a sufficient emblem of his official rank and of his authority.

—Herrford.

McVey Put Pelkey "To Sleep."

Melbourne, Australia.—Arthur Pelkey, the Chicopee (Mass.) heavy weight, who knocked out and killed Luther McCarty in the ring at Calgary, Alberta, in 1913, was defeated by Sam McVey, the Afro-American, here last week, Friday night. McVey had all the better of the battle and in the fourth round put Pelkey to sleep with a terrific knockout blow. McVey has lived in Paris, France, for more than ten years.

The following cartoon from last Tuesday's Journal by one of the great test artists in America is to the Editor of The Sun the finest thing that has appeared so far in the franchise fight and is unquestionably the "last word" in the present campaign.



"What! Give the Metropolitan a nineteen-year extension of its franchise? Say, you must think we are nutty! What has the Metropolitan ever done for Kansas City? What do we care about the city's credit in the East? We're against all franchises and we don't care whether outside capital ever seeks any investments here or not!"

from the employment given our people at the hands of the street car companies and the Armour interests. C. H. CALLOWAY.

HEAR HON. W. CLARENCE HUESTON.

After a careful perusal of the proposed contract to be submitted to the people on the 7th day of July, 1914, on the question of the extension of the franchise, I am of the opinion that the contract is a fair one. The people of Kansas City, Mo., are interested, first, in adequate service, and I believe that this contract provides for such service. Second, they are interested in the cost of transportation. After a study of the different systems I am of the opinion that the one in our town, which gives universal transfers is in the end much cheaper than those that give six tickets for a quarter and one transfer, as is the custom where tickets are sold for a cheaper rate.

In addition to believing that the contract is a fair one, I am for the granting of this franchise for the reason that the Metropolitan Street Railway Company in its laboring department does not draw the color line. The Metropolitan Street Railway Company employs more Negroes than any other corporation in Kansas City, Mo. The bread and butter line, so far as the Negro is concerned, is being drawn so tightly around the throat of Negroes in discrimination against them to the end that it is almost impossible for a Negro to get work in Kansas City, and because of this I have finally decided that the thing for us to do is to stay with those people who believe in giving us,

at least, an opportunity to honestly toil for our bread and butter for ourselves, wives and children. Since the Metropolitan Street Railway Company is our best friend on the question of giving us labor, and since I believe the contract to be a fair one, I unhesitatingly advise all Negroes to support the franchise and vote for its passage.

W. C. HUESTON.

Colored Men, Vote!

A NEW ENTERPRISE
WATCH IT GROW.
WHO IS PROMOTING IT?
ANSWER:
COMPTON & SPRANGLES.
WHERE LOCATED?
2224 Vine St.

Watch the Columns of The Sun for Particulars.

BARGAINS BARGAINS BARGAINS
AN OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFE TIMEBankrupt Stock of E. Finkelstein
1802 EAST EIGHTEENTH STREET
Must Be Sold in FIVE DAYS

The last few days has been the greatest bargain feast that the people of this community have ever experienced. But in order to make a final clean up of the remainder of stock, we have cut the prices far below the wholesale cost. Remember we bought this stock very cheap. This enables us to quote the extreme low prices that you will find. Come and convince yourself.

BOSTON BARGAIN STORE,

1802 EAST EIGHTEENTH STREET.

The place where your dollar does the work of two. Store open Saturday evening until 11 o'clock.

Just opposite the Kansas City Sun Office.

U. S. JUDGE HOOK APPROVES NEW MET. FRANCHISE.

Federal Jurist in Order Issued Today, Says Ordinance Should be Adopted by the People.

DECLARES IT FAIR TO ALL
Decision Reached After Having Studied Question From All Sides—Not One Objection.

Judge William C. Hook, administering the receivership of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, issued an order this morning recommending to all the parties interested in all the properties that the proposed franchise be adopted and that all the provisions of the ordinance be carried out.

The approval of Judge Hook was necessary before the franchise could be submitted to the people under the terms of section one. If there was any point objectionable to the court it was within the power of the court to say that the ordinance should not be submitted. After going over the ordinance thoroughly, Judge Hook issued his order approving the action of the receivers. He viewed the franchise from the standpoint of the company, the city and the people as a whole.

The court's approval of the franchise means that it is considered fair for everybody. The order is made with reference to all lines in the system. The order follows:

"In the District Court of the United States for the Western Division of the Western District of Missouri. "Kansas City Railway & Light Company, complainant, vs. Metropolitan Street Railway Company, et al., defendants. In equity No. 3729.

Old Colony Trust Company, complainant, vs. Metropolitan Street Railway Company, et al., defendants. In equity No. 3904.

"New York Trust Company, et al., complainants, vs. Metropolitan Street Railway Company, et al., defendants. In equity No. 4004.

"The Equitable Trust Company, et al., complainants, vs. Metropolitan Street Railway Company, et al., defendants. In equity No. 40.

Order. "This cause came on for hearing this 20th day of June, 1914, and the court having fully inspected the proposed franchise ordinance to the Kansas City Railway Company approved by the mayor June 15, 1914, and the amendments to sections 16 and 22 adopted by the council upon the same date, and the court being fully advised in the premises, recommends to the parties interested in all the properties mentioned in said ordinance and the amendments thereto, that the said ordinance be fully carried out.

(Signed) WILLIAM C. HOOK, Circuit Judge."

BLACK EYE IF THE FRANCHISE LOSES.

Every Property Owner and Business Man Will Feel Its Effect.

MEANS YEARS OF STRIFE.

General Manager Young of Montgomery Ward & Co. Gives His View.

Speaking for himself and for what he believes to be the best interests of the 2,000 employees of Montgomery Ward & Co., the big mail order house at Nineteenth and Campbell streets, which is completing a plan costing more than \$1,000,000 at St. John and Belmont avenues, Andrew Young, general manager of the plant in Kansas City, yesterday placed his hearty endorsement on the street railway franchise.

"I realize that we do not want to see the welfare of Kansas City damaged further," said Mr. Young. "No city can develop without adequate street car service. My opinion is that the mayor has obtained about the best franchise possible for our street car users. I also realize that if this franchise does not carry it means a foreclosure. If that should occur it would cause a dismemberment of the lines, which then would be operated individually without transfers and the whole matter would be tied up in the courts for years, thereby seriously retarding the development of Kansas City.

Former Warning Recalled.

"This is something, I feel sure, that no fair-minded man wants to see. Kansas City already has been given a black eye from which it will suffer for years to come. I know that some persons scoff when one speaks of foreclosure proceedings and probable dismemberment of the lines. 'Oh, they won't do that,' they say. 'Have no fear, never worry, they won't do that.'

"But I recall that when the franchise question was up in December, 1909, and the people were told that if the company could not obtain an extension to its franchise to enable it to borrow money to pay its debts, it would have to go into the hands of receivers, these very same people who now scoff at the suggestion of a franchise were just as loud in saying then, 'Oh, have no fear, never worry, there will be no receivers. That's just a bluff. They won't do that.'

"But I recall that receivers were appointed when the franchise failed to carry, just as the people were warned. Therefore, I have no reason to doubt that foreclosure proceedings would be pushed should this franchise fail.

Dr. Wm. J. Tompkins Speaks

His Views on the Pending Franchise Convincing and Unanswerable.

In taking a position on public affairs, my first interest has always been for the welfare of Kansas City's minority, my people the black folk. Relative to the Metropolitan Street Railway Franchise I have taken a position only after careful investigation from a standpoint of civic pride and racial interest.

I shall not attempt to go into all of the details of the franchise for this has been done by the city experts and has been adopted by the upper and lower houses of the city council and has been endorsed a sane business proposition by the Commercial Club; that body of men who guard and control the destiny of Kansas City's present and future commerce.



DR. WM. J. THOMPkins.

One of Kansas City's most eminent physicians and surgeons—white or black, who gives in this issue of The Sun many valid reasons why the colored people of this city should support the Metropolitan franchise.

cial life; the history and record of which stand as an open book to the public.

For four years Kansas City has been embarrassed before the world because her commercial interests were thrown in a chaotic state as a result of false representations to the people by the Kansas City Star. Let us as a race take a retrospective view and ask ourselves: can we rely on what the Kansas City Star says in regard to any proposition?

The Metropolitan Street Railway Company employ 600 Negroes daily with a payroll amounting to \$7,500 per week which represents \$390,000 per annum as salaries to my people.

The Kansas City Star employs two Negroes to load the heavy paper trucks at \$12.50 per week each which amounts to \$1,200 per annum.

The Armour Packing Co. employs 2,800 men, 25 per cent of this number are Negroes and there is a constant demand for unlimited Negro labor at the packing plant. Mr. Charles W. Armour, the president of this firm, is the stockholder of the Metropolitan Street Railway Co. It was he as one of the members of the hospital and health board that made it possible for the Negro nurses and internes to be placed in the old city hospital. It is the Armour interest in Chicago that make possible the existence of Provident hospital, the pride of the Negroes of Chicago. During the existence of Douglass hospital in Kansas City, Kas., Mr. Armour has lent valuable aid to its support. I might go on speaking of the pension list of old Negroes who get not only their family provisions weekly but their pay as well, but space will not permit the same.

On the other hand, may we ask? What has Mr. William R. Nelson, editor of the Kansas City Star, done for the Negro?

Is this not a most splendid opportunity for us as a race to show gratitude to those who make it possible for us to succeed?

I do believe my people are ever grateful to those who help us to make our opportunities better. I do believe there is in the heart of every Negro in Kansas City that racial pride which makes him keenly responsible to that desire to take advantage of this occasion and show Mr. Armour that you want to return your appreciation in support and loyalty to him and that institution which has made possible many of our home necessities.

With the same undaunted courage which is a characteristic of our race go to the polls on July 7 with your 5,500 votes in the same spirit as you did last April when you elected Henry L. Jost mayor of Kansas City. Pay your debt of gratitude and thereby make Kansas City a great big place in which to live.

DR. WM. J. THOMPkins.

A week's bargains at the Colored Shoe Store—\$1.00, 50c and 25c are the prices. Pick them out. They are white canvas, buckskin and patent leather. 1507 East 10th st.

Imperial Grand Commandress Cassie Melker of the Imperial Grand Council of Isis, has appointed daughter, Riche C. Coles, District Deputy of Allah Court No. 6, Valley of Missouri Oasis of Kansas City. The election in Allah Temple will be Saturday, June 27. All daughters are urged to be there.